

Meeting Notes

Transportation & Land Use Work Group #4

November 29, 9:30 – 11:00

City-County Building – Law Department Conference Room

Attendees:

- Madeleine Weil, City
- Beth Reed, City
- Kelley Segars, TPO
- Ellen Zavisca, TPO
- Mark Kolander, City Fleet
- Steve Beauman, City Fleet
- David Reister, Sierra Club
- Jeff Welch, TPO
- Jonathan Overly, ETCFC

City Fleet Efficiency

Mark Kolander, City Fleet

- Fleet division will request funds for a passive AVL system for Public Works vehicles in capital improvement project (CIP) request. System collects vehicle data: if it's on, where it's going, speed, idle time. Will allow for analysis of whether vehicles are appropriately zoned, whether the number of trucks being utilized is appropriate to the job. May provide data supporting fleet reductions, route changes, additional home-base or fueling locations (locating and fueling vehicles closer to where they work could significantly cut back on vehicle mileage). Discussion: program could be eligible for CMAQ – congestion mitigation and air quality – funds.
- Additional CIP request for a new fuel management system. Proposed system automatically knows which vehicle is being fueled, how much fuel is pumped, keeps track of total usage over time. Could allow for less-used vehicles to be put into motor pool for use by multiple departments.
- Fueling locations: light duty @ Process, heavy duty @ Lorraine, KPD @ 5th Ave (gasoline only). County has main fueling station at Baxter, some smaller remote locations. Some governments have shifted away from central fueling stations to providing employees with “Fuel Man” cards, usable at commercial stations. Could improve efficiency because no need to travel out of the way for fueling, though downside is increased potential for fraud. City always needs its own fueling station – emergency preparedness.
- All new gasoline vehicles are flex-fuel (can use E85, gasoline interchangeably). Once a diesel vehicle uses biodiesel, it needs to keep using it or maintenance problems follow. State funding available for alt-fuel installations.
- City fleet turnover schedule: KPD typically 5 yrs, Public Works typically 10-15 years, Fire typically 15-20 years. Age-maintenance problem = vehicles sometimes have inappropriate level of usage for age, condition. Vehicle choice based on price, maintenance, size, power, fuel economy.
- Fuel budget usually calculated = last year's budget + 5%.

Idle Reduction Policy + Education

- Myths exist about when idling is required. People over-idle because they think they should, or they know no reason not to. Sometimes idling is necessary. City

- policy & education initiative could seek to clarify when idling is necessary and acceptable, when it's not. Target major fleets first.
- School buses typically first target b/c risks to children's health. Knox County school bus contractor's association represents many, many small school bus companies that serve Knox County schools. Explore with County opportunities to reduce idling at schools, particularly by vehicles waiting to pick-up students after school.

Tree planting – carbon sequestration benefits

- Chattanooga has quantified using Stratum tree inventory program – includes sequestration potential based on tree type. Gene Hyde – Chattanooga contact.
- Knoxville has an urban tree plan. Has explored tree protection ordinance, though developers objected. Could explore tree standards for commercial development and parking lots.

Other Discussion

- EPA will release report in January re: how climate change will alter NAAQS attainment projections.
- TPO predicts 8-hour ozone standard will be lowered to 70 or 75. This would render every county in Tennessee with a monitor in nonattainment. Significant impact on federal transportation dollars.

Task Force Meeting

- Scheduled for 12/12, 2-4, Small Assembly Room, CCB
- City will present energy & emissions inventory. Working group members asked to prepare >1 minute summary of each proposal/idea under discussion.
- Transpo/Land Use working group measures: city fleet efficiency, transit-oriented development + land use, KAT fleet emissions reductions + transit development plan, Smart Trips, alternative fuels, tree planning, city fleet idling policy & education, recruit car-share company.